

REMARKS

The Applicant requests reconsideration of the rejection.

Claims 1 and 4-9 remain pending.

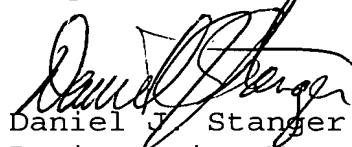
Claims 1-9 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for the minor informalities noted upon Page 2 of the Office Action. The Applicant has amended the claims to address the Examiner's concerns.

Claims 1-2 and 6-7 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Cochran et al., U.S. 4,545,720 (Cochran). The Applicant traverses as follows.

Claim 1 has been amended to include the subject matter of Claim 3, which does not stand rejected on prior art grounds. Specifically, Claim 1 has been amended to require that the protective projections provided on the cylinder mounting member and projecting from the back side of the working tool to protect the other end of the tool operating cylinder, be bent in an obliquely upward direction from a cylinder connecting portion of the cylinder mounting member toward the tool operating cylinder. This construction clearly distinguishes hitch brackets 26 of Cochran, which were asserted against the claimed protective projections of original Claim 1.

In light of the cancellation of Claims 2-3 and the addition of the subject matter of Claim 3 to the independent claim, the Applicant believes that the application is now in condition for allowance. Accordingly, the Applicant requests reconsideration of the rejection and allowance of the claims.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Daniel J. Stanger", is written over the typed name.

Daniel J. Stanger
Registration No. 32,846
Attorney for Applicant

MATTINGLY, STANGER, MALUR & BRUNDIDGE, P.C.
1800 Diagonal Road, Suite 370
Alexandria, Virginia 22314
(703) 684-1120
Date: May 2, 2006